1720

COMIC SHOP NEWS™

RORSCHACH

Who's Watching the Watchman?

It's been more than a third of a century since readers first met Rorschach in the pages of the groundbreaking ***Watchmen*** series by *Alan Moore & Dave Gibbons.* Inspired by *Steve Ditko's* Charlton Comics hero The Question, Rorschach's absolutist view of good and evil also drew inspiration from Ditko's objectivist hero Mr A.

In 2012, DC revisited the enigmatic masked character as a part of the ***Before Watchmen*** project, which features interconnected series exploring the background of the Watchmen cast. *Brian Azzarello & Lee Bermejo* explored Rorschach's crime-fighting exploits in 1977 New York, a pivotal period that reshaped the hero's views of good and evil.

More recently, Rorschach 2.0 was a pivotal figure in the *Geoff Johns–Gary Frank* series ***Doomsday Clock***. This Rorschach is the son of the psychiatrist who evaluated and treated Walter Kovacs, the original Rorschach.

And now, in October 2020, the trenchcoat-clad masked hero returns to action in the pages of ***Rorschach,*** a 12-issue limited series by *Tom King & Jorge Fornes.*

As the series begins, "it's been 35 years since Ozymandias was exposed for dropping a giant telepathic squid on New York City, killing thousands and ending the public's trust in heroes once and for all," DC explained in announcing the series. "The Minutemen are gone; only their memory lives on. Especially the infamy of Rorschach, who has become a cultural icon since Dr Manhattan turned him to dust.

"Rorschach may have spoken truth, but he wasn't a hero."

"Like the HBO ***Watchmen*** show and very much like the original '86 ***Watchmen***, this is a very political work," *Tom King* said. "It's an angry work. We're so angry all the time now. We have to do something with that anger. It's called Rorschach not because of the character Rorschach, but because what you see in these characters tells you more about yourself than about them."

What does it mean when Rorschach reappears as part of a pair of assassins trying to kill the first candidate to oppose President Robert Redford in decades? Follow one determined detective as he walks backward in time, uncovering the identities and motives of the would-be killers, taking him deep into a dark conspiracy of alien invasions, disgraced do-gooders, mystical visions—and comic books.

Rorschach #1, by *Tom King, Jorge Fornés, Dave Stewart,* and *Clayton Cowles,* is scheduled for October 13th release under DC's Black Label mature-readers imprint. The $4.99 comic will be offered in two editions, one featuring cover art by *Jorge Fornes* and the other featuring variant cover art by *Jae Lee.*

by Cliff Biggers

Morrison Has Universal Appeal

Grant Morrison, already a superstar in the comics industry, recently made the jump to television as a writer and producer of the ***Brave New World*** on NBCUniversal's Peacock streaming service. Apparently the circle will be unbroken, as the deal with Universal will lead to a new comics imprint that will result in new Morrison comics projects.

Universal Content Productions (UCP), which has produced such projects as ***Battlestar Galactica, Mr Robot, Monk, Suits, Umbrella Academy, Pysch,*** and the upcoming ***Resident Alien*** as well as launching a podcasting arm dubbed UCP Audio, has unveiled plans to launch a comics imprint, UCP Graphic—and their first project will be *Grant Morrison & Alex Child's* ***Proctor Valley Road,*** described by **variety.com** as "the story of a group of teenage girls suspected in the disappearance of several teen boys in a 1964 California beach town." Morrison is on board as co-writer of the first five issues of the series, which will be published through Boom! Entertainment, which is already the home of Morrison's ***Klaus*** project that explores the early days of the man who would be known as Santa Claus.

According to studio President *Dawn Olmstead,* the comics line will serve as a launch platform for new intellectual property that could be utilized in other platforms as well. They're already pursuing this strategy with their UCP Audio line, which is the home of *Sam Esmail's* latest project, a scripted series called ***The End Up.***

"Similar to our strategy with launching UCP Audio, we want to offer storytellers the opportunity to create for multiple content platforms, including graphic novels. Our goal is for UCP to be a home for great storytelling, no matter the medium," Olmstead said.

Look for more news in ***Proctor Valley Road*** and other UCP Graphic projects in upcoming issues of ***CSN.***

Courtesy of your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

Coming Comics—Image in October

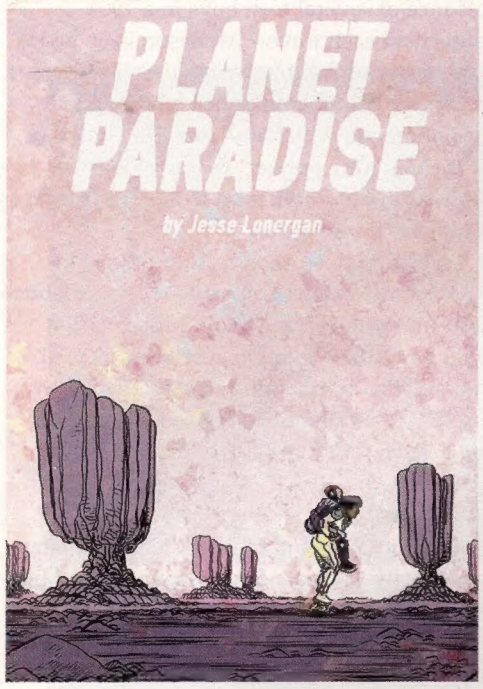
Blue in Green OGN TP (by *Ram V & Anand RK)* presents the dark and haunting portrayal of a young musician's pursuit of creative genius—the monstrous nature of which threatens to consume him, as it did his predecessor half a century ago.

The last survivors of the Multiverse live among us under new, superheroic identities, five survivors of doomed worlds, taking a second chance to ensure our world lives on in ***Commanders in Crisis #1*** (by *Steve Orlando & Davide Tinto).*

Sam and Jack are best friends, and Sam is dating Lauren, Jack's indie rocker sister and roommate. Tensions skyrocket when Sam and Lauren decide to open up their long-term relationship, sending social shock-waves through their friend group and the entire Bay Area, leaving poor Jack caught in the middle in ***Getting it Together #1*** (by *Sina Grace, Omar Spahi, Jenny D. Fine, & MX Struble).*

Years ago, a war between serial killers began as a simple game but quickly got out of control, and in ***Nailbiter Returns #6*** (by *Joshua Williamson, Mike Henderson, & Adam Guzowski)* the Nailbiter and his daughter return home to Buckaroo to investigate who restarted the game.

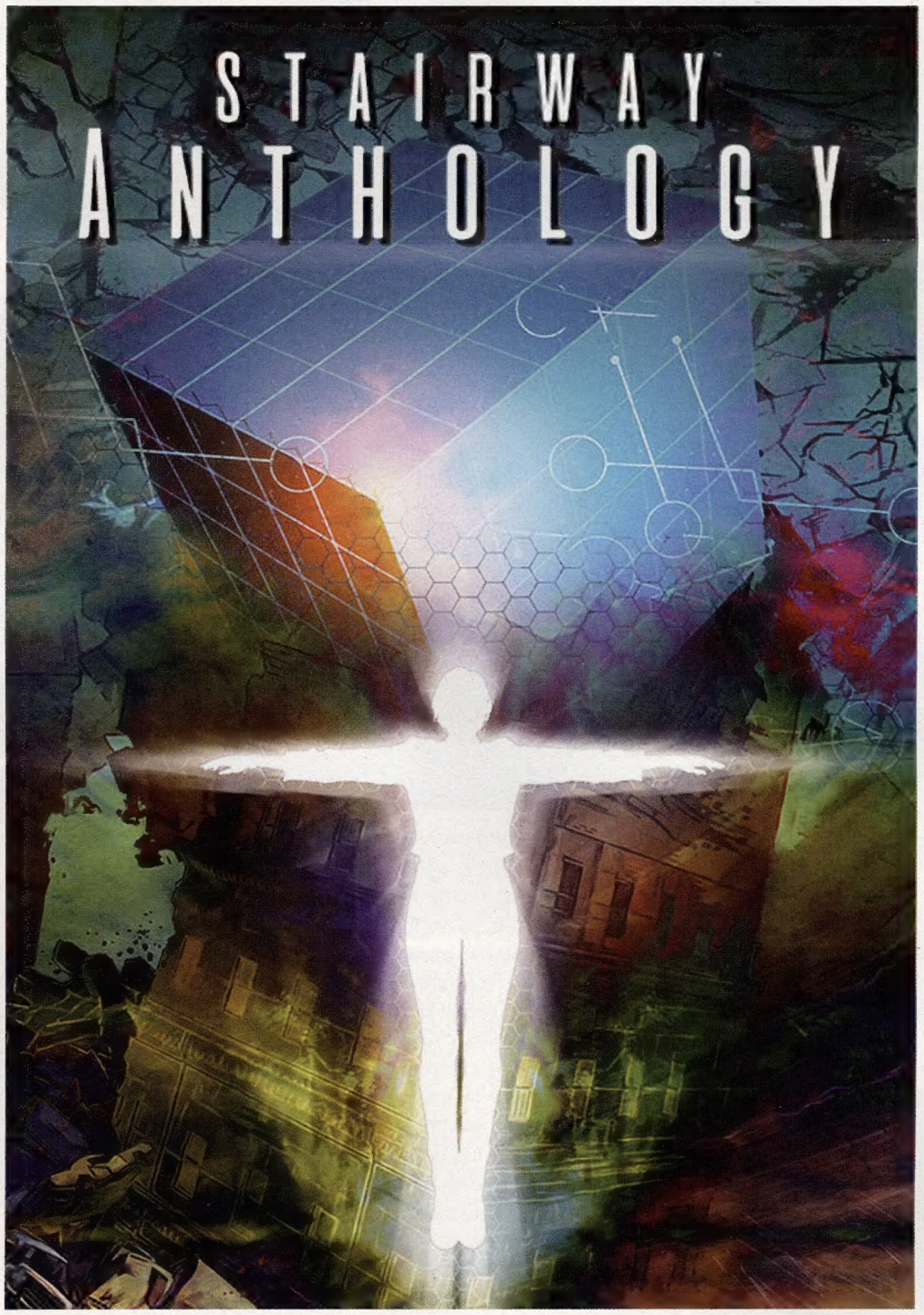
To survive after crash landing on an alien planet, a vacationer must battle against a hostile environment, killer lizards, corporate bureaucracy, and the pessimism of her sole companion, the drug-addled captain of the ship, in *Jesse Lonergan's* ***Planet Paradise OGN.***



The fate of the world rests in the hands of the worst person on it in ***The Scumbag #1*** (by *Rick Remender, Lewis LaRosa, & Moreno Dinisio),* the story of Ernie Ray Clementine, a profane, illiterate, drug-addicted biker with a fifth-grade education. He's the only thing standing between us and total Armageddon because this dummy accidentally received a serum making him the world's most powerful superspy.

Genetic manipulation, paradox, alternative histories, and much more are included in ***Stairway Anthology TP,*** a 128-page anthology of hard science fiction and genre stories by *Mark Schmidt, Omar Spahi, Andrea Mutti,* and many others.

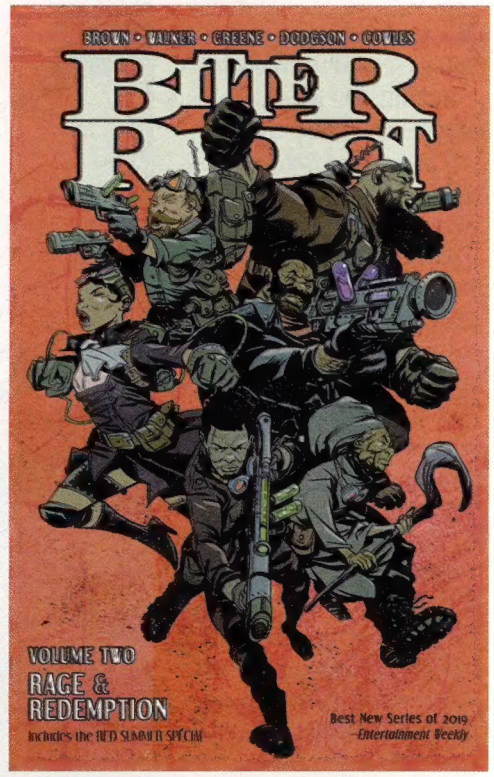
Dan and Cathy's relationship becomes strained, perhaps irreparably, in ***Swing Volume 3*** (by *Matt Hawkins & Yishan Li).*



It's time to revisit the historic independent series that took the entertainment world by storm 17 years ago! Follow Rick Grimes's journey again, from the very beginning, but this time in stunning full color by *Dave McCaig* in ***The Walking Dead Deluxe #1,*** which will also feature variant covers commemorating major characters' introductions, a new installment of "The Cutting Room Floor," *Robert Kirkman's* original handwritten plots, and more.

Image collected editions include:

- ***Adventureman Volume 1: The End and Everything After HC,*** collecting ***Adventureman #s 1–4.***
- ***Criminal Deluxe Edition Volume 3 HC,*** collecting ***Savage Sword of Criminal, Deadly Hands of Criminal, My Heroes Have Always Been Junkies, Bad Weekend,*** and the most recent ***Criminal #s 1–4.***


BROWN • WALKER • GREENE • DODGSON • COVIES
BITTER ROOT
VOLUME TWO
RAGE & REDEMPTION
Includes the RED SUMMER SPECIAL
Best New Series of 2019
Entertainment Weekly

- ***Bitter Root Volume 2: Rage & Redemption TP,*** collecting ***Bitter Root #s 6–10*** and ***Red Summer Special.***
- ***Exorsisters Volume 2: Kick at the Darkness TP,*** collecting ***Exorsisters #s 6–10.***
- ***Family Tree Volume 2: Seeds TP,*** collecting ***Family Tree #s 5–8.***
- ***Nailbiter Volume 7: Nailbiter Returns TP,*** collecting ***Nailbiter Returns #s 1–5.***
- ***On the Stump TP,*** collecting ***On the Stump #s 1–5.***
- ***Sex Criminals Volume 6: Sex Criminals TP,*** collecting ***Sex Criminals #s 26–30 & 69.***

Coming Comics—Boom! in October

The man known only as Berzerker is half-mortal and half-God, cursed and compelled to violence... even at the sacrifice of his sanity. But after wandering the world for centuries, Berzerker may have finally found a refuge in ***BRZRKR #1*** (by *Keanu Reeves, Matt Kindt, & Alessandro Vitti)*—working for the US government to fight the battles too violent and too dangerous for anyone else. In exchange, Berzerker will be granted the one thing he desires— the truth about his endless blood-soaked existence... and how to end it. ***BRZRKR #1*** marks acclaimed actor *Keanu Reeves'* comics-writing debut as he joins co-writer *Matt Kindt* for this bold new series chronicling an immortal warrior's fight through the ages.

Willow had discovered something rotten at the heart of Abhainn—and now her new-found friends may become her enemies in ***Buffy: Willow #4*** (by *Mariko Tamaki & Natacha Bustos)*! To escape with her life, Willow will tap into powers she never knew she had, to save herself—and her soul.

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Dune House: Atreides #1 (by *Brian Herbert, Kevin J. Anderson, & Dev Pramanik)* transports readers to the far future on the desert planet Arrakis, where Pardot Kynes seeks its secrets. Meanwhile, a violent coup is planned by the son of Emperor Elrood; an eight-year-old slave Duncan Idaho seeks to escape his cruel masters, and a young man named Leto Atreides begins a fateful journey. These unlikely souls are drawn together, first as renegades and then as something more, as they discover their true fate—to change the very shape of history!

In ***Juliet Takes a Breath OGN*** (*Gabby Rivera's* adaptation of her best-selling novel, with art by *Celia Moscote)*, Juliet Milagros Palante is leaving the Bronx and headed to Portland, Oregon. She just came out to her family and isn't sure if her mom will ever speak to her again. But Juliet has a plan to figure out what it means to be Puerto Rican, lesbian, and out. And that starts with the perfect mentor—Harlowe Brisbane, a feminist author who will surely help Juliet find her best self. There's just one problem—Harlowe's white; she's not from the Bronx,

and she doesn't have the answers. Okay, maybe that's more than one problem, but Juliet never said it was a perfect plan...

In ***Mega Man: Fully Charged #3*** (by *AJ Machiesello & Stefano Simeone)*, Mega Man fears he is not strong enough to protect Silicon City after he learns of a plot for a new robot uprising led by Skull Man and a shocking ally! But can Mega Man trust Dr Wily's offer to make him the upgraded hero Silicon City needs?

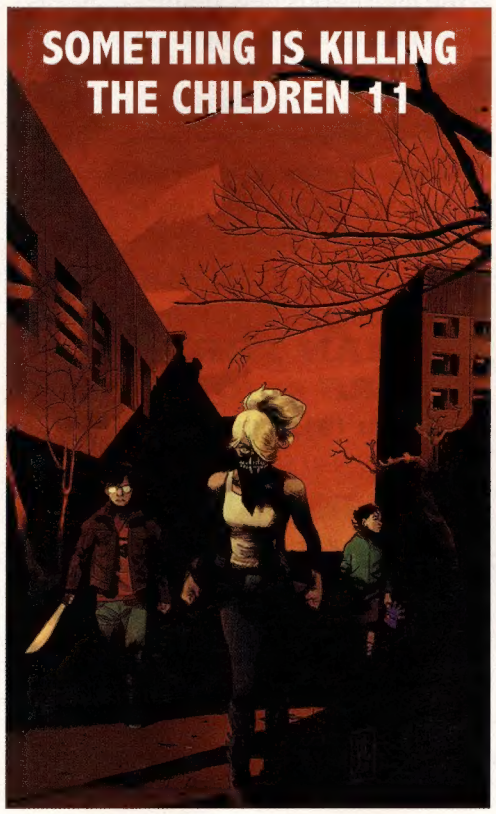
The veil between the Otherworld and the human world is thin, and as the story changes around Duncan and Gran, each foe becomes harder to defeat... and predict. They may be holding the line, but enemies both new and old are closing in fast, and even Gran and Duncan may not be prepared for what awaits in ***Once & Future #12*** (by *Kieron Gillen & Dan Mora).*

After a devastating loss to the enemy, Kimberly and the remaining Power Rangers must rally their remaining forces in a final stand against Lord Drakkon's cruel world-ending contingency plan in ***Power Rangers: Drakkon New Dawn #3*** (by *Anthony Burch & Simone Raggazoni)*. The Rangers will take on an enemy never before seen in Power Ranger history!

The Red Mother is stronger than Daisy could ever have imagined, strong enough to find Daisy wherever she goes. What she sees, the Red Mother sees, and there is no escape. Daisy thinks she may have found a way out in ***The Red Mother #9*** (by *Jeremy Haun & Danny Luckert)*—but a way out can also be a way in...

The only thing standing between Caspar and his dream of protecting one of the Secrets—and getting to know the mother who abandoned him—is the Trials. Caspar is pitted against the best and brightest of his generation, fighting for his life in ***Seven Secrets #3*** (by *Tom Taylor & Daniele di Nicuolo)*—but will it be worth the cost of winning?

Erica's gambit to save Archer's Peak has failed. In ***Something Is Killing the Children #11*** (by *James Tynion IV & Werther Dell'Edera)*, the town is under the full control of the Order of St. George. And if the spread of the monsters can't be contained, then the Order might move to eradicate the entire area...



Wilma is being courted by the Ravens, a group of witches who want her to join their coven, in ***An Unkindness of Ravens #2*** (by *Dan Panosian & Marianna Ignazzi)*. But Scarlet, the most popular girl in school, wants Wilma for herself. The Ravens say that Scarlet is dangerous, but everything will be fine—won't it?

Captain Malik and the crew of the Vihaan II escape from their tyrannical government and chart a course straight to the first living god they can find in ***We Only Find Them When They're Dead #2*** (by *Al Ewing & Simone De Meo)*. But the only thing more dangerous than what lies ahead of them... is who follows behind them.

It's Wynd vs the Bandaged Man in ***Wynd #5*** (by *James Tynion IV & Michael Dialynas*). But if Wynd wants to save his friends, he'll need to accept who he truly is—and the power that comes with being a Weirdblood.

Boom! collected editions include:

- ***Alienated TP,*** collecting ***Alienated #s 1–6.***
- ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer Legacy Edition Book 3 TP,*** collecting ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer #s 20–29*** and ***Angel #15***, previously published by Dark Horse Comics.

- ***Firefly: The Unification War Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Firefly #s 1–4.***
- ***Ghosted in LA Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Ghosted in LA #s 9–12.***
- ***Jim Henson's Labyrinth: Coronation Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Jim Henson's Labyrinth: Coronation #s 9–12.***
- ***King of Nowhere TP,*** collecting ***King of Nowhere #s 1–5.***
- ***Klaus: The Life and Times of Santa Claus HC,*** collecting ***Klaus and the Crying Snowman #1*** and ***Klaus and the Life and Times of Joe Christmas #1.***
- ***Lumberjanes Volume 16 TP,*** collecting ***Lumberjanes #s 61–64.***
- ***The Red Mother Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***The Red Mother #s 5–8.***
- ***Ronin Island Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Ronin Island #s 9–12.***
- ***Saban's Go Go Power Rangers Volume 8 TP,*** collecting ***Go Go Power Rangers #s 25–28.***
- ***Steven Universe Volume 9 TP,*** collecting ***Steven Universe #s 33–36.***

CSN TOP COMICS

ALIEN ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY #1 (OF 5)

Cristiano Seixas (W); Guilherme Balbi (A)

(Dark Horse JUN200291 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

En route to back to Earth, the crew of the starship Snark intercepts an alien transmission. Their investigation leads them to a desolate planetoid, a crashed alien spacecraft, and a pyramidic structure of unknown origin. Then the terror begins...

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Dan O'Bannon's original unproduced screenplay premieres in comic book form. Dark Horse may be losing the ***Aliens*** franchise, but they're going out with a bang!

BAD MOTHER #1

Christa Faust (W); Mike Deodato Jr (A)

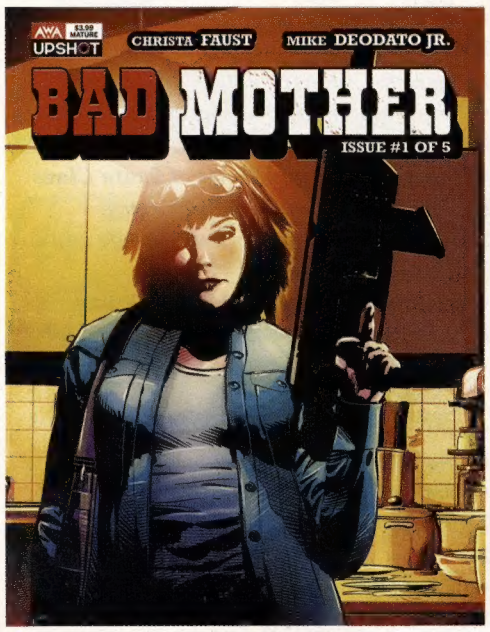
(AWA JUN200977 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

April Walters is a hit-and-run victim of life—a middle-aged soccer mom whose inner fire has been snuffed out by her dreary suburban existence. When her teenaged daughter goes missing under mysterious circumstances, April embarks on a harrowing mission to find her, a journey that takes her through the underbelly of her suburban community and sets her on a collision course with a massive crime syndicate and its lethal matriarch. Turns out it's true: Hell hath no fury like a mother scorned.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Acclaimed crime/suspense writer *Christa Faust* and *Mike Deodato Jr* present a compelling tale of an everywoman hero who'll stop at nothing to protect her family—and when this one turns into a major motion picture in a couple of years, you'll be glad you latched onto the comic at cover price!



BATMAN #96 JOKER WAR

James Tynion IV (W); Guillem March (A)

(DC JUN200445 $3.99)

BATMAN #97 JOKER WAR

James Tynion IV (W); Jorge Jimenez (A)

(DC JUN200449 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Reeling from the effects of the worst Joker toxin attack ever, Batman is on the run through Gotham City, pursued by the dark shadows and voices that haunt his past and present! As Joker's plan materializes, the only person who can save Batman from the brink of true madness is... Harley Quinn?! Plus, who is the mysterious new figure known as Clownhunter? And why is Catwoman assembling an army of her own?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Batman versus the Joker. Harley Quinn taking Batman's side in a faceoff. And a new character, the Clownhunter. How many reasons do you need?

BATMAN THREE JOKERS #1 (OF 3)

Geoff Johns (W); Jason Fabok (A)

(DC JUN200440 $6.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

After years of anticipation starting in ***DC Universe: Rebirth #1,*** the epic miniseries you've been waiting for is here: find out why there are three Jokers, and what that means for the Dark Knight and the Clown Prince of Crime. It's a mystery unlike any Batman has ever faced!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Thirty years after Batman: The Killing Joke changed comics forever, ***Three Jokers*** reexamines the myth of who, or what, Joker is and what is at the heart of his eternal battle with Batman. The entire Batman-Joker conflict is about to take on a startling new dimension, and the DC Universe will never be the same!

BIG GIRLS #1

Jason Howard (W/A)

(Image JUN200012 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

When men become giant monsters hellbent on destroying the world, only girls can stop them—Big Girls! Ember is a big girl who writes poetry, loves to read... and is a 300-foot-tall, full-time monster killer! She and the other big girls are all that stand in the way of our world's complete annihilation!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

These big girls don't cry... they just kick ass and save the world in this tale that Image describes as "a cross between ***John Wick*** and ***Godzilla*** by way of HBO's ***Girls.***"

THE CIMMERIAN: PEOPLE OF BLACK CIRCLE #1

Robert E. Howard & Sylvain Runberg (A); Jae Kwang Park (A)

(Ablaze JUN200808 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

In the kingdom of Vendhya, the king has just died, struck down by the spells of the black prophets of Yimsha. The king's sister, Yasmina, thought she could use Conan to avenge him... but it is she who will serve his interests in this complex tale of combat, intrigue, deception, and witchcraft.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Ablaze continues its English-language presentation of the acclaimed French adaptation of *Robert E. Howard's* Conan tales.

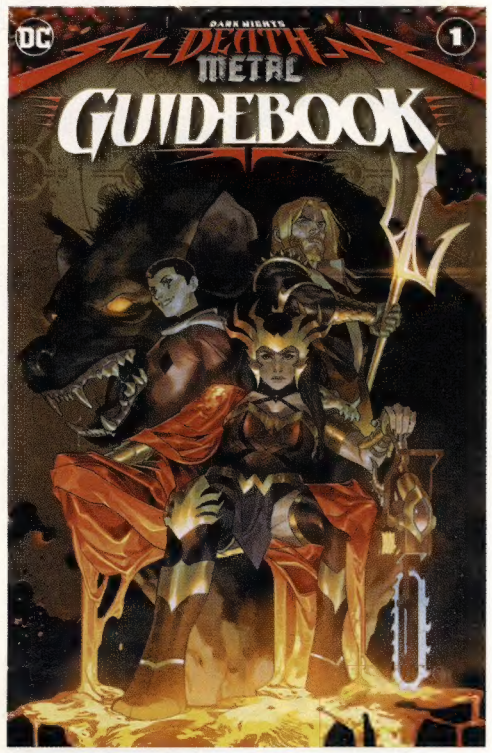
DARK KNIGHTS DEATH METAL GUIDEBOOK #1

Various (W/A)

(DC JUN200438 $5.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Earth is turned upside down, shrouded in a realm of darkness after the Justice League's defeat by the cosmic goddess Perpetua. Now the Batman Who Laughs and his army of Dark Knights rule the planet, wreaking havoc on humanity and raining destruction on the world. As Wonder Woman, Super-



AUGUST

man, Batman, and other heroes fight to survive in this strange new landscape, one cloaked figure has been observing from the sidelines, creating a guidebook to this new world and its evil leaders in the hope of forming a plan of justice... and penance. This issue showcases the new factions of Earth and explores the mystery of what happened to our heroes after their battle with Perpetua. How did Wonder Woman become the queen of Hell? How did Batman find the Black Lantern ring? And what happens when Harley Quinn takes charge of the Wasteland... and finds love in the process?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Get your program here! You can't tell the players without a program!... Particularly in a world this bleak and twisted!

DARK NIGHTS DEATH METAL #3 (OF 6)

Scott Snyder (W); Greg Capullo & Jonathan Glapion (A)

(DC JUN200429 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

When the Justice League launches its assault on New Apokolips, the team's goal is to free Superman from his solar prison. But it's all going off the rails when they learn that the Man of Steel is gone for good, thanks to the Anti-Life Equation. Plus, the deep secret of the Darkest Knight is revealed—but how much darker could the Batman Who Laughs possibly get? And don't miss the surprise return of everyone's favorite wanna-be Robin!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Scott Snyder & Greg Capullo continue their dark reinvention of the DC Universe as the Batman Who Laughs takes an even more diabolical turn! And wait 'til you learn the secret of the Darkest Knight!

FANTASTIC FOUR ANTITHESIS #1 (OF 4)

Mark Waid (W); Neal Adams (A)

(Marvel JUN200659 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

An unstoppable meteor of unknown origin has just erupted from hyperspace—and unless the Fantastic Four can find a way to stop it from hitting Manhattan, millions will die!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

For the first time ever, comics legend *Neal Adams* illustrates a full-length Fantastic Four tale—and he's joined by superstar storyteller *Mark Waid*!

FIRE POWER BY KIRKMAN & SAMNEE #1

Robert Kirkman (W); Chris Samnee (A)

(Image JUN200038 $3.99)

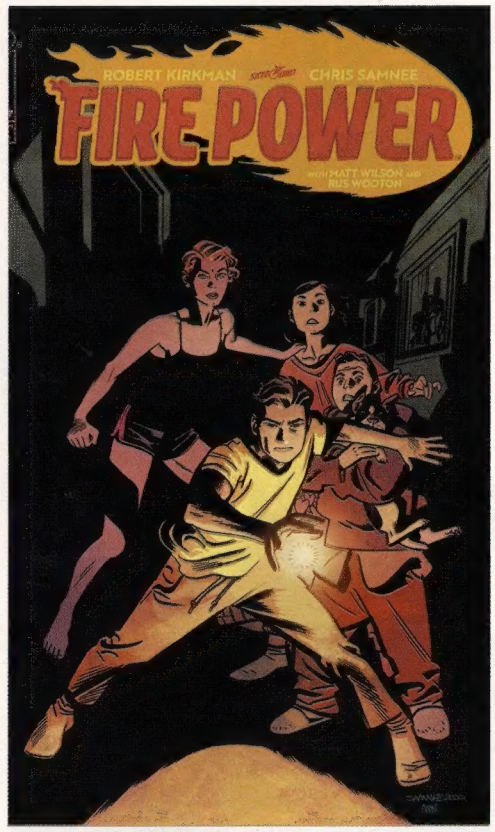
FIRE POWER BY KIRKMAN & SAMNEE #2

Robert Kirkman (W); Chris Samnee (A)

(Image JUN200076 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

The one who wields the fire power is destined to save the world... but Owen Johnson has turned his back on that life. He doesn't want the power, and he never did. He only wants to spend time with his family and live his life, but unseen forces are at work to make that impossible. Danger is about to find Owen and his family, and the Fire Power is the only thing that can save them.



WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Robert Kirkman & Chris Samnee kick off a bold new series that's part superhero adventure, part martial arts film, with a dash of anime action tossed in for good measure.

HEAVY METAL #300

Various (W/A)

(Heavy Metal JUN201152 $9.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

A new era begins: Classic and new comic book creators from all over the world join the magazine to celebrate its 300th issue as ***Heavy Metal*** returns to its roots.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Moebius, Richard Corben, Liberatore, Jonathan Hickman, Simon Bisley, Frezzato, Vaughn Bode, Stephanie Phillips, Justin Jordan, Blake Northcott, Matt Medney, David Erwin, Ignacio Calero, Duke Mighten, and more—it's like a who's who of ***Heavy Metal*** heavy hitters!

JUSTICE LEAGUE #50 (NOTE PRICE)

Robert Venditti (W); Xermanico (A)

(DC JUN200504 $5.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

On the alien planet Trotha, Empress Siddinx's plan is revealed, and it's nothing short of world domination... with the Justice League entangled in her puppet strings. But how can the team save a population that now hates and fears them?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

"The Rule of War" comes to an end in this extra-length issue.

LOCKE & KEY IN PALE BATTALIONS GO #1 (OF 2)

Joe Hill (W); Gabriel Rodriguez (A)

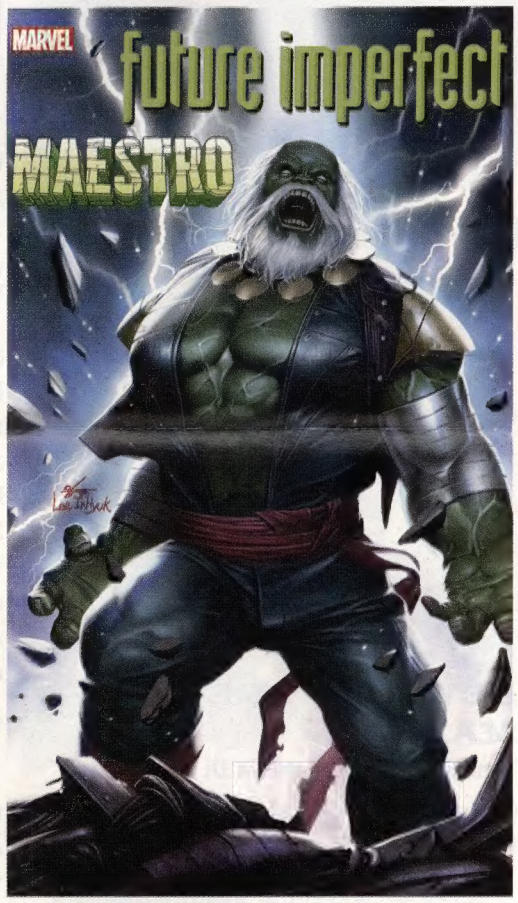
(IDW JUN200565 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

In the spring of 1915, Chamberlin Locke's oldest son, John, is desperate to be a part of the greatest war of all... and never mind that he's too young to enlist. He means to use the power of the keys to turn the tide, and he will tell any lie, and try any manipulation, to have his way.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

The reality-bending keys of Keyhouse have always been weapons of war... as readers are about to discover in this grim supernatural tale set against the backdrop of World War I.



MAESTRO #1 (OF 5)

Peter David (W); German Peralta & Dale Keown (A)

(Marvel JUN200648 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

How did the world fall and the Maestro rise? What happened to the world's heroes in between? And where is the Hulk we know and love? Find out here!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Peter David revisits the world that he and *George Perez* first introduced 30 years ago in the pages of ***Future Imperfect***... and he's joined by artists *Dale Keown & German Peralta* to answer questions that have inspired reader speculation for years!

MARS ATTACKS RED SONJA #1

John Layman (W); Fran Strukan (A)

(Dynamite JUN200675 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

She is the red-haired She-devil with the Sword. They are the green-skinned invaders from the red planet. Yes, those dastardly ***Mars Attacks*** Martians are attacking again—but these are the Martians of old, the Martians of the Hyborian Age. And it's up to Red Sonja to stop the attack.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

John Layman brings together two franchises that you *never* expected to see in one book... and along the way, he promises a few links to earlier ***Mars Attacks*** and ***Red Sonja*** storylines that he's penned over the past decade!

SEVEN SECRETS #1 MAIN

Tom Taylor (W); Daniele Di Nicuolo (A)

(Boom! JUN200760 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Seven Secrets could destroy the world. For centuries they've been locked away and protected by The Order. When their stronghold is attacked and a secret revealed, the entire Order must go on the run. The Order's youngest member, Caspar has been trained his entire life to protect the Secrets he will never know. Now is his chance to prove his worth—to become a Holder of one of the deadliest secrets in the world. But Caspar has a secret of his own...

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Ace storyteller *Tom Taylor,* the man who made ***DCeased*** a surprise smash success, presents a tale about seven powerful secrets and the Order sworn to protect them.

VLAD DRACUL #2 (OF 3)

Matteo Strukul & Andrea Mutti (W); Andrea Mutti (A)

(Scout APR202029 $6.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

In order to protect his land and his country's children from slavery at the hands of the Ottoman Empire—a fate that he knows too well, as he suffered as one of those child slaves—Vlad launches an attack at Targoviste with 24,000 knights changing the tide of the war. With morale low after this crushing defeat, Mehmet II, the Conqueror, reveals his secret weapon: Radu, Vlad's own brother.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Matteo Strukul & Andrea Mutti prove that the story of the real Vlad Dracul can be just as compelling—and sometimes just as horrifying—as *Bram Stoker's* fictional reimagining.

X-MEN GIANT SIZE MAGNETO #1

Jonathan Hickman (W); Ben Oliver (A)

(Marvel JAN200838 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Krakoa may be only for mutants, but mutants still need to deal with the human world around them. Magneto has a plan for that...

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Dawn of X mastermind *Jonathan Hickman* presents a must-read tale of the Krakoan Ambassador and Master of Magnetism. If you've enjoyed the whole Dawn of X saga so far, you have to have this issue!

Collected Cool: August's Best Reprint Editions

BATMAN BY GRANT MORRISON OMNIBUS HC VOL 3

(DC MAR200619 $75.00)

Batman's war on crime goes global in this collection of ***Batman: The Return #1, Batman Incorporated (Series 1) #s 1–8, Batman Incorporated: Leviathan Strikes! #1, Batman Incorporated (Series 2) #s 0–13,*** and ***Batman Incorporated Special #1.***

CONAN THE BARBARIAN: THE ORIGINAL MARVEL YEARS OMNIBUS HC VOL 4

(Marvel JAN201038 $125.00)

Roy Thomas & John Buscema bring the saga of Belit and her quest for the crown of Asgulun to a conclusion in a tale that will forever change Conan's life—and the adventures that follow feature a more savage Conan, fiercer than ever and truly unbound, as originally presented in ***Conan the Barbarian #s 84–115 & Annual #s 4–6*** and ***What If? #13.***

GOLDEN AGE MARVEL COMICS OMNIBUS HC VOL 2

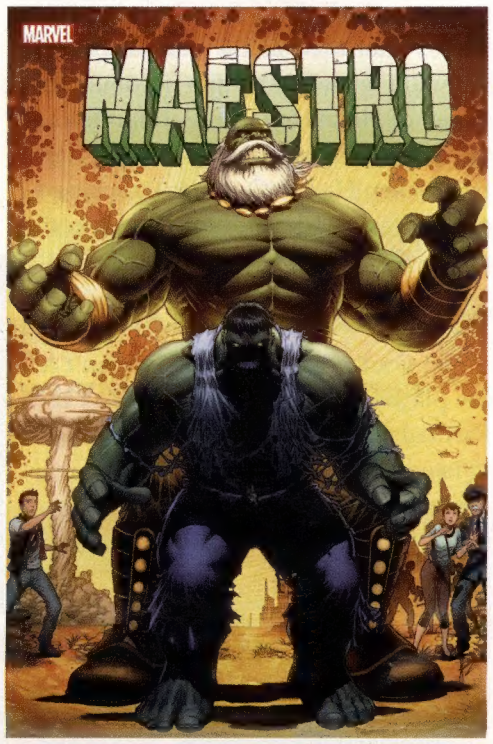
(Marvel FEB201039 $150.00)

The original Human Torch, Namor the Sub-Mariner, the Vision, the Patriot, Electro, Ka-Zar—they're all in here, along with many more high-octane Golden Age heroes. This volume reprints the rarely seen ***Marvel Mystery Comics #s 13–24.***

GREEN ARROW BY MIKE GRELL OMNIBUS HC VOL 1

(DC OCT190663 $150.00)

In the late 1980s, *Mike Grell* transformed Green Arrow from a second-string hero to a star—and all the early Grell tales are here, from ***Green Arrow: The Longbow Hunters #s 1–3*** and ***Green Arrow #s 1–50,*** plus a story from ***Secret Origins #38,*** with an all-new introduction and cover by *Mike Grell* and an afterword by series editor *Mike Gold.*



MAESTRO: FUTURE IMPERFECT—MARVEL TALES #1

(Marvel JUN200655 $7.99)

Peter David & George Perez's history-making ***Future Imperfect*** is collected in this ultra-affordable $7.99 comics-sized edition.

SOLOMON KANE: THE ORIGINAL MARVEL YEARS OMNIBUS HC

(Marvel JAN201040 $100.00)

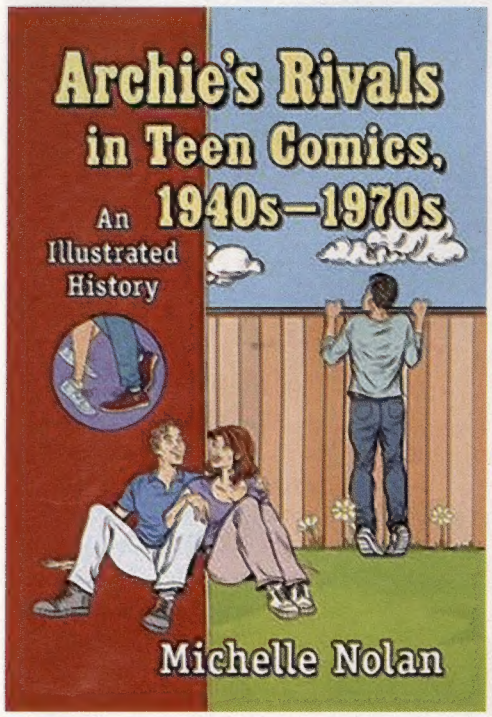
Robert E. Howard's Puritan adventurer was a comic book sensation that followed the success of Conan and Kull into comics—and now Kane's complete, classic Marvel adventures are collected in one massive Omnibus volume!

STERANKO IS REVOLUTIONARY KING-SIZE HC

(Marvel NOV190951 $100.00)

Boy, was he! And you'll see just how revolutionary he was in this massive volume (four times the size of a regular comic—twice as wide, twice as tall) collection Steranko's complete SHIELD run from ***Strange Tales #s 151–168*** and ***Nick Fury, Agent of SHIELD #s 1–3 & 5.***

FYI: Must-Haves for Your Reference Library



ARCHIE'S RIVALS IN TEEN COMICS 1940S–1970S SC

(McFarland JUN201202 $39.95)

Patsy Walker, Hedy Wolfe, Buzz Baxter, and Wendy Parker from Marvel; Judy Foster, Buzzy, Binky, and Scribbly from DC; Candy from Quality Comics; and Hap Hazard from Ace Comics—they all followed the Archie teen-humor model, and they're all spotlighted in this volume that covers the history of the characters, who drew them, why (or why not) they succeeded as Archie rivals, highlights of both unusual and typical stories, and much more.

COMIC ART IN MUSEUMS SC

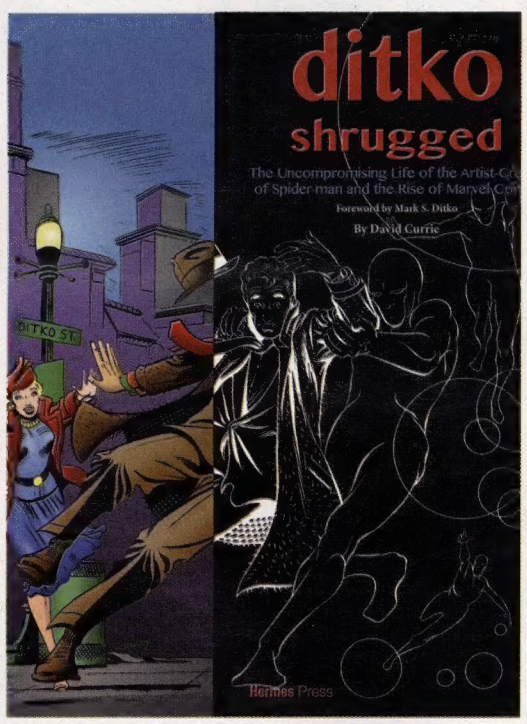
(University Press of Mississippi JUN201418 $30.00)

Through essays and interviews, *Kim A. Munson* tells the story of the over-30-year history of the artists, art critics, collectors, curators, journalists, and academics who championed the serious study of comics, the trends and controversies that produced institutional interest in comics, and the emergence of comics as a legitimate museum-curated art form. From the first-known exhibit to show comics in art historical context in 1942 to the evolution of manga exhibitions in Japan, this volume regards exhibitions both in the United States and internationally.

COMIC BOOK CREATOR #24

(TwoMorrows APR202113 $9.95)

Timothy Truman talks about his varied life in the field, from his start at the Joe Kubert School to his breakout success on *Grimjack* with writer *John Ostrander* and current collaborations with son Benjamin.



DITKO SHRUGGED: THE UNCOMPROMISING LIFE OF THE ARTIST

(Hermes JUN201163 $49.95)

David Currie presents an in-depth biography of comics legend *Steve Ditko*, fully endorsed by the Ditko Family. Much of this is told in Ditko's words, taken from years of correspondence with Currie.

Hot Commodities: August's Best Merchandising & Collectibles

BATMAN WHO LAUGHS VS BATMAN BATTLE STATUE

(DC FEB200600 $375.00)

Jim Fletcher provided the designs for this *Alterton* sculpt of the malevolent—and wildly popular—addition to Batman's Rogues Gallery, limited to 5,000 pieces.

DC GALLERY CLASSIC BATMAN PVC STATUE

(Diamond Select APR202658 $49.99)

This new Gallery Diorama depicts Batman with a rich blue cowl and a yellow-encircled Bat-logo, preparing to hurl a batarang, just as he did in so many Silver Age classic tales.

DC GALLERY CLASSIC HARLEY QUINN PVC STATUE

(Diamond Select APR202659 $49.99)

Wearing her iconic red-and-black harlequin outfit and balanced on a jack-in-the-box, Harley is made of high-quality PVC and features detailed sculpting by *Alejandro Pereira*.

MARVEL GALLERY MILES MORALES SPIDER-MAN PVC STATUE

(Diamond Select APR202660 $49.99)

Crouched on a web slung across an alleyway, Miles Morales lives up to his namesake in this all-new PVC sculpture portraying the hero in his element.

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